



TORONTO'S



BURNING



URBAN BLIGHT

P. Frank Chartrand

It's been a while since there was a scene/report on Highborn. I host a radio show here in Toronto called Equalizing X-District and there are loads of local bands coming through playing on-air. As a result I am privy to all sorts of updates on the local scene that I would like to share. There were also a lot of people who helped fill in the blanks, so this is more than a one-person effort.

Probably the most important thing that has happened in Toronto in the last couple of years was the opening of a punk store called Hits and Misses. Now those familiar with King's Crossing Steady, or at least the lore of that Seattle institution can get an idea of the kind of store we are talking about: loads of new stock, ample vintage stock, crates of used vinyl, and a patch wall—a whole store that is dedicated to punk. Sure we had stores with punk sections like Route 66's and Soundbeats, and in the past we had some strictly punk stores like Full Blast, Who's Criminal, and Sketchy's, but these stores didn't carry the magnitude nor wealth of stock that Hits and Misses has. Peter Gendron, the store owner, picked up from his Seattle shop a couple years back and set up shop in Toronto. This wasn't some rash decision, as Pete had always

wanted to move back to Toronto. Pete's older brother was the bassist in the YOUNG LIONS who were one of the cornerstones of the Toronto hardcore scene. Anyway, the place is a punk rock Mecca and is located on the west side of town in Ilford and Ossington, 860 Bloor Street West. The store has hours every day, usually opening around noon. If you are in town you should make the pilgrimage.

Alright, let's get into the band news... CARVER SUICIDE just released an EP titled *Cherry Beach*. This was released on SewerGate as a temporary press. CS want to go back into the studio to re-record *Cherry Beach* and hope to do a full length's worth of recordings while they are at it. They also hope to tour Europe and the West Coast. To get in touch with the band you can contact them through the singer at macfarland@earthlink.net. They also have a website which is www.earthlink.net/~carver-suicide. Josh, the guitarist of CARVER SUICIDE started up a one man band called MAD M-F. Josh played all the instruments and did the recording, which makes this truly a DIY feat. He has three demos to date and these were recently collected into one. MAD M-Fs are rumored to

sound like MENTAL ABUSE. You can contact Josh at josh.falco@gmail.com for copies.

URBAN BLIGHT has been more active in the last six months than anytime during their existence. They have a self-titled EP coming out on Shitler Records; selected titles include: *Blight*, *Supremacy*, *Guilt of Being Blight*, and *Hooker Blight*. In Canada Write Mail Backle at www.shitlerrecords.com for details. The singer Beau has started a new band called BAD CHOICE, which takes a cue from Criminal Damage in taking influences from the early UK scene with bands like Blot and The Oppressed, and some USHC like Krust and The Effigies. They hope to record in the next couple of months. You can contact Beau at case at point@hotmail.com.

DANGERLOVES broke up last spring. Their latest EP *Young Pretender* was released by Static Shock, a record label run by Ellis, the bass player of the Shiny Limits in the UK. You can reach Static Shock at staticshockrecords@gmail.com. DANGERLOVES also covers X and contributed two unreleased tracks for an upcoming Schizophrenic comp. THE RAY OMITIES broke up after their 2007 west coast tour, with their last

show being at 92.9 3rd main. They recorded a final single *Spiky Pressure* for Damaged that did not get past the test press stage.

LEGION666 has been around for just over ten years now. They are planning on releasing something to commemorate their decade of existence such as a special one-off release. Last year they released the *Black Goat Armageddon* LP to rave reviews and it is still available through Sceptrophonic Records. They have a Gutter cover on the *No/CD* comp. Contact the band through clawtrapping@hotmail.com. Official band websites at www.legion666.ca and www.myspace.com/legion666. Also, the guitarist from LEGION666, has started drumming for a metal band that formed out of METHOD66 called SEPULCHRE. They are AMELIX, MATT HAMMER and SODOM inspired, kind of like the '80s proto-thrash bands. They will be playing their first gig with the new HAMMER band called SEPTICHTERSTRIKE. SEPULCHRE's website is at www.myspace.com/sepulchre666 and can be contacted at officialsepulchre@hotmail.com.

This brings me to RAMMIE. They broke up after Al Biddle joined COMIC NOBODIAST. Joel and Dave teamed up with Andy, Eric and Ben from the ENDLESS BLOCKADE to form SEPTICHTERSTRIKE.

ENDLESS BLOCKADE is still hard at work. Toronto's favorite ultra-core band has loads of new releases and lots of plans. Most recently 20 Rock Star released the *Primitif* full length on LP and CD. A split 7" with Shook is in the works and is to be released in limited press of 100 copies. Fuck Yoga has released a 7" of their demo and a split LP with Iron Lung, but they are both sold out. Not to be content with that list, the band has a bunch of releases in the works like the split that Relapse is doing with Asphyxiated Noisefest, 20 Retal Spin is also doing a split LP with Bastard Noise, which should be out in the summer. Chronic Pooter is doing a split LP with Uncerthly Trance but is out just at the summer stage. There is also talk about a split with Wadge on Regulated Sonnet Records out of Germany. The band hopes to tour later this year with Flared Sarge. Also, the band has an after-gig noise project called DEATH AGENTS with some self-released material; some of the members have some splinter noise projects. For details write: threendlessblockade@gmail.com.

CURSED are over on thimble to a diet in Europe that stole most of their gear and stuff. It became the story that broke the proverbial camel's back. Chris has started a little fan project called MATURE SITUATIONS with Dan Jones who used to be in the UNCRETIONS. BURNING LOVE was a short-lived band with Chris and two broke in GORE FATHER. They did a recording and played a few shows and have a 7" coming out soon on High Anxiety Records.

GORE FATHER has a few recordings that you should check out. They sound like Kyuss having sex with Black Sabbath and giving birth to a crust-punk child. The band released a six-song EP titled *First Glimp* in 2006. It was a two-song demo with the songs "Snow Thunder" and "Dirty Streets" in 2007, and is only a two-song EP on Valliant Records. You can contact the label via Brody Parker at 72 Allenburg Drive, Bradford, ON, N5V 1E2 or go to www.myspace.com/valliantrecords. You can check out the band at www.myspace.com/gorefatherband.

ANOTHER FATHER-related band is VALERIAN CHAINSAW MASSACRE. This band has Kevin who used to sing in DIE HARD LOSERS. They just had a full length released on Goodfellow Records and is very SWARM inspired. Goodfellow Records is at 22 Wilson Street, Hamilton, ON, L8R 1C5, Canada www.goodfellowrecords.com. The band is hoping to go on tour in the States this summer so to book shows contact Dave at davecoconaro@hotmail.com and for general inquiries contact saturnhelminisawholesale@hotmail.com.

EATING GLASS has a demo out and an EP titled *Feed Them to the Fishes* on High Anxiety Records. The band also sounds like the SWARM. EATING GLASS can be contacted through e-mail at slapeyes@gmail.com. They have a Myspace site at www.myspace.com/slapeyes.

Joel and Andrea from GORE FATHER and BURNING LOVE started a new garage punk band called RACINOT. They just started and already

have two recordings. One is a two-song demo and the other is a three-song recording that includes a Dead Boys cover. This second recording is going to be pressed as a 7" to be called *Laughing in a Club*. The band will release the LP and you can write Andrea at 452 Concord Avenue, Toronto, ON, M6H 2P8, ruckshotband@gmail.com. The band will be heading out to the east coast this summer.

BRUTAL KNIGHTS continues to crank out the jams. Matt from the ENDLESS BLOCKADE has joined up on bass and John Power is now on drums. *My Life My Life* was their latest release on Spin the Bottle Records. Jimmy Napid has recorded eight songs for a 12" to be titled *Local Rebellion* on Plush in Germany and Damaged is working on a CD that collects a number of EPs. The band will be touring in Europe in April or May and you can contact the band through don@brutalknights@yahoo.com or www.myspace.com/brutalknights.

END PROGRAM is an anarchic crust band behind the High Art collective. The band has a demo and a recent CD titled *The Machines Are Only Human*, both of which are self-released. The band is heading out onto the road this summer and is then heading west to tour with THE MOTHERFUCKERS, THE REBEL SPELL and CAMBRIDGE. They are also hoping to put out an LP this year. Check them out at www.myspace.com/thendprogram.

DANGERLOVES



THE TERMINALS has been around for a couple of years. The band features Joelle and Roddy from SPOTTY BQLEY and Twichy, formerly of SHITLOADSON HICKALL. The band has self-released a CD that features a Johnny Cash cover among a slew of originals. And the band also has a track on the DIX Toronto comp. You can check them out at www.myspace.com/theterminalsdel.

GEMEN has been playing for a while with bands like the Dayglo Abortions and the UK Subs. Rick from ARMED AND HAMMERED has joined the band temporarily. They have a new CD about to come out so contact Mogen Dean at Kill Rock and Roll, 28 Spadina Road, Apt. 12, Toronto, ON, M5R 2S7, Canada, mopadean@hotmail.com.

THE THUAN BIBLES broke up for Stacy-Casa is drumming for a new band called THE WEIRDIES. They have a self-released CD in their first *The Weirdies in a*. And you can write them at www.theweirdies.com. Craig Daffals has a new band called DON.

ISPORE broke up a while ago. Chris started a new band called TITAN. They released a four-song EP called *The Chrysanthemum Pledge*, which was released on vinyl in Europe a little later. Two splits have come out, one with In First Person and the other with June Park. TITAN just recorded five songs to be called *Cathexis*. Format to be determined. They hope to go on tour to promote this release and you can contact the band at ironisolate.org. TO THE LIONS broke up, but did get a CD released on Goodfellow Records called *Reigning of Fire*, which you can order at www.goodfellowrecords.com. To get in touch with the band write fan at ssparks@rothelions.ca. Sparkle is working on a DVD release for post mortems of the Toronto IC matches. I don't know the site because it is new.

Pat Lase from BLUNDERMEN has a new band called OVERPOWER. They are a streetpunk band rooted in early US hardcore and have been known to cover Negative Approach live. They have a song called "Hogwash Slapheads," which is about some hometown pride. HOSTAGE LIFE has a new EP out called *When Love*. The record is out on Black Pits Records and is a four-song EP. You can write to check out more details on Black Pits at 503-75 Broadway Avenue, Toronto, ON, M4P 1V1, Canada www.myspace.com/blackpitsrecords. They have a split with Calgary's Knucklehead out on Longshot Music. The press has collected vinyl and all that fancy shit, but more importantly contains two new songs, one of which is not a Reagan Youth cover. The band is working on their next split, which will be with some other MARYN's VITAMINS album. The new band is the LITTLE MILITAIRES and features some of the BOMBS OVER PROVIDENCE folks. The EP is tentatively titled *Drinking in the City Against Racism*.

BLACKJACKET self-released their third CD last year titled *Cynical Epidemic*. They have been recording for their next one and also have a song coming out on a comp called "Turbo Zombie Uppercut." They are heading over to Europe as you read and you can contact them at blackjackcity@yahoo.ca about their new material.

The scene has turned over a new leaf with a new generation of bands. BAD SKIN is one of these bands. They are kids who moved to the big smoke from Glanville. They live in the west end and have shows out of their house, which is affectionately referred to as the Bad Cave. BAD SKIN have just released a new, six-song demo titled *We're Here*, that you can get by writing them at 494 Marguerite Street, Toronto, ON, M6L 1S6 or by e-mail at badskin@yahoo.com. They also have a new recording with thirteen to fifteen songs that might make up a 7" and might be self-released. They will also try and tour in the spring or summer but write them for details.

URINARY TRACT INFECTION was one of the first bands to play the Bad Cave. Influenced by FUCKED UP and CHITTY, the band also has a demo out. Theirs is an eight-song demo and is one of my favorites from last year. They have some tracks coming out on the new *Toronto City Ombuds* comp and hope to tour and record this year for a split with the defunct CHANAR HANSEN. To get a copy of the demo you can reach the band at urinarytractinfection@hotmail.com or www.ignispace.com/urinarytract.

SCHOOL HERKS is a new band featuring two members of the now-defunct TERMINAL STATE. They have been around for only a few months but already they have this awesome five-song demo that combines their early '80s punk sound with some reckless abandon. You can write the band for a copy at 68 Crawford Street, Toronto, ON, M6J 2V2 or at schoolherks@gmail.com. The demos are \$5.00 ppd. They have a second recording which produced a three-song EP which should be out on Kill Rail Records and you can write for more info at 301@hotmail.com for details.

The REPROBATES has broken up. This was the band that the Laybom brothers helped form, with Gabby, John, and Lenny in the band. They had a couple of recordings together, one of which was a five-song cassette demo that was pretty awesome. The other recording was parceled out to some ringtones and an EP on No Way Records called *Series*. The FUCKED UP cassette called "Year of the Magical Pig over Berlin" came out on a comp titled *Back of Pin* released by Sures Dejanji Records. A CD cover is going on a tape coming out of Austin put out by COAST Records. And three songs are going on the new *Toronto City Ombuds* comp, one of which is an Upright Citizens cover. And then Lenny, the drummer, split for Vancouver and then came back and their status is a little unsure. For writing: reprobatescan@gmail.com.

Lenny moved back to Port Dover and started recording some bands like IDOLS DESTROYED. Lenny also played in DISGUSTING BODY. The bass player moved to Calgary for work, which wound up breaking the band up. This happened just after their tour with Yagot in the summer. But the band did release a four-song disc on a white label.

available through the stages. G o n a Molodzy at 300 Palmerston Avenue, Toronto, ON, M6J 1T4. Send a couple of bucks for postage. The band has a Myspace file at www.ignispace.com.

discoveringhubs. Gena is doing a few band that she describes as a cross between NYHC and No Hope For The Kids. Gena is also doing an online zine called *Sound Pollution*, not to be confused with the label from Kentucky. The link is: www.soundpollutionmag.com.

MOLESTED YOUTH is one of the youngest bands in the city. Which got into hardcore because his landlady told him to check out CARLEER SUICIDE. What resulted is a bunch of kids learning their instruments, busting out SSD and Negative Approach covers. Their first single dropped out at the ripe age of 17, so Warren's brother has taken over vocal duties. They have a four-song demo and a live on CD tape with their first singer and are working on material for the current lineup. You can reach the band at molestedyouth@hotmail.com or www.ignispace.com/molestedyouth.

BORED STUFF is another new band that reminds me in sound of early SSD meets Rise Above and has some anti-cop songs to boot. The band takes influences from Trash Talk, Ceremony, Look Back And Laugh, and DRI. They recorded a five-song demo that is no longer available, but they have a new ten-song live recording from our radio show. They are going into the studio to record a pair of EPs at the studio that HAZARDOUS WASTE and D. L. recorded their 7". BORED STUFF also has shirts and you can write them at 221 Monarch Park Avenue, Toronto, ON, M4J 1S7 or by email at boaredstuff@hotmail.com.

HAZARDOUS WASTE is an awesome new early hardcore punk band from Mississauga. When I say early hardcore punk I mean they sound like something from the early Mysic comps. They just released a three-song EP called *Pain on Nerve* Hold Records at 401 Dundas, Apt. 5, Woodstock, ON, N4S 1B8, Canada, email, daddagrowth@gmail.com or www.ignispace.com/nerveholdrecords. I heard that Scatophrenia might be doing their next EP and they have some songs on the Ombuds comp. To order the *Pain* EP, write the label or the band at hazardouswaste@hotmail.com. Their drummer is going out west for work so the band will be on hiatus in the summer.

One of our sound engineers plays in a ska-punk band called THE CORPORATION. The best way I can describe them is like a mash-up between On Ivy and the Dead Kennedys. They have a number of self-released CDs, the most recent being *The Return of the Corporation*. You can contact the band at 4040 Golden Orchard Drive, Mississauga.





ON, 1-416-448-1440.

TEENAGER is another new band that plays a dirty mixture garage rock, blues, and country. They have recorded two tapes, each with seven tracks called *Burned from the Bone*. The band is working on a split with Charlie And The Moonheads for the spring. You can find out more about the band at www.overspace.com/teenager11/.

WORLD WAR I is a new three-piece of kids from the East Coast, to a large extent. Lucio was in **DIE BRUCKE** and Steve Musgrave was in **NOT ENOUGH BULLETS** and many other bands. WWI has a recording up on their Myspace, which is like a demo but I'm not sure if they are circulating actual copies. You can check out the band at www.myspace.com/worldwar1music.

FORTUNE TELLER sounds like *Buried Alive* and has the drummer from **URBAN BLIGHT** and the singer from **RISKY BUSINESS**. A lot of these newer bands can be found out about on *Stuck in the City's* website at www.stuckinthecity.ca.

Newmarket is a new city north of Toronto and they have had a pretty good scene going back to the days of **STUPID IMPATIENCE**. As of recent, the Newmarket scene has been marginalized by the high cost of venue rentals. Any all-ages venues in town generally hold about 300 people and as such need a large audience to cover costs since there's no booze being sold. The all-ages scene peaked around 2006 and since many of the kids have come of age and have taken over Toronto's small downtown bar scene who runs Undercore Productions it the only one booking things in town at this point. In order to avoid a large overhead, all-ages shows have been moved to Sharrin Hall about five minutes out of town. These don't happen very often (once every two-three months) and hold just over 100.

One of the bands that I know about are the **SICK NEEDS**, who features Ronald Pagan of the **METAL EDDIES**, Korynn from the **THROWAWAYS**, and Dean from **EXCRETION**. They have three five-song CD/EPs that they will self-release in the summer and will be followed up with a split with the **METAL EDDIES** and then splits with other bands in late fall. Hopefully a summer tour will materialize. The **SICK NEEDS** are playing Tondosoo open every six weeks and the random all-ages gig. You can contact Ronald at rmetuladies@hotmail.com. I don't think the **METAL EDDIES** are still together but they do have a 20-song CD available, called *Brain of the Operatum*. And there must be some unreleased material because Ronald is working on a split with the **SICK NEEDS** for the summer. It will come out on Ronald's label No Vinyl Records, so it will probably be a CD. Write No Vinyl at 870 Drexel Blvd., Newmarket, ON, L4Y 5C5, Canada.

Another place rockabilly fans called **BLIZZDELUXE** just got back from touring the States and Australia. They have a new EP titled *Up Against You* and a CD titled *But...Deluxe*. You can reach them at mario.blizzdeluxe.com.

BSTOI recently released a 99-song self-titled CD, **STACK AND LARGE** has a four-song EP out on AW Tapes and can be contacted by email at stackandlarge@hotmail.com.

The **BREW CREW** is working on a release for the spring and can be

contacted by email at browcrewmusic@hotmail.com. And the band that the **BREW CREW** formed out of was **OVERDOSE**. **OVERDOSE** has reunited and you can contact them at overdosestreetpunk@hotmail.com.

The **FLATLINERS** had a CD come out on Fat Week 4 months called *The Great Escape* and can be contacted at fatweek4@hotmail.com.

THREE POINTS AT A DISTANCE just had a reunion tour and collected their previous EPs onto one CD. When in Ottawa they also got interviewed by the *Ottawa Sun* because the singer is from there. Contact them through Johnny Sitchings at threepointsatadistance@gmail.com. Johnny is in another band called **STAY YOUNG** and their email address is stayyoungshow@hotmail.com.

Christian Campbell will be organizing the Punktoberfest event in October again, which is a big annual all-ages show that showcases the scene's bands.

A little further north is a band in Barrie called **GENERATION EXPOSE**. The band changed their name from **BROWN BELT** and features Dena Dog from **SONS OF ISMAEL**, and Rob and Scott from **PHANTOM RAY**. You can contact the band through www.myspace.com/generationexposed.

Hamilton is a city west of Toronto. It is a working class town and has always had a great scene that dates back as far as **TEENAGE IDIOT** and **SIMPLY SAUCER** in the '70s. They are kind of in the reporting area of Toronto in I want to mention some awesome bands from this area. **GUNNAR HANSEN** was one of my favorites and they reminded me a lot of **SHOCKS TERROR**. The band released an EP on his label Audio Fellin before breaking up. **GUNNAR HANSEN** has a batch of unreleased songs that are going to be released on a split EP with *Mississippi's U.F.I.* **GUNNAR HANSEN** has also committed to playing a couple of record release shows, which will also give the band the opportunity for a proper goodbye. A couple of the members from **GUNNAR HANSEN** teamed up with Jon from the **BLACK EYES CLUB** to form **NEVER CRASH**. **NEVER CRASH** has a demo out which makes ample use of a matching sample that sounds like the "Holidays in the Sun." The guitarist Chris fucked up his hand and the band was on hiatus until he got better. He says he's so they have stopped, and the damage are gone. Another good band bites the dust.

RAH is an awesome new band from the Hamilton, although half of them live in Toronto now. They have a more straightforward sound and remind me a lot of **ABOUT TO SNAP**. They've recorded a demo and an EP titled *Intelligent Diction*, which they self-released on a label they call Choe Opalvie. The record has just had a second press and final pressing. The band is going into the studio in the spring to record their full EP and a split EP with a yet-to-be disclosed Toronto band. To track down the EP or updates on the band write him at weareallthe@gmail.com.

Sadly, Jimmy's scene, Reigning Sound closed down. The **VAPIDS** released a full length CD called *The Palace Reminds the Sun* back when the store was open—absolute scorcher. An EP by the same name is about to be released in Italy on Surfing Ki who will also be releasing *Clapin Si faut Dingo Dingo* on vinyl. You can write Surfing Ki at surfingrecords@hotmail.it. The **VAPIDS** also have a song coming out on a tribute comp for the Goofy Ghetties. Jimmy has a long haul with his brother Scotty called the **HAKHOB KATIS**. They recruited fills from the **ROCKET RHOCHERS** to fill out the live up and sound like The Kids, Easy Googles, and The Devil Does. They have a four-song CD and a 12-song CD that you can write for at 85 Gairland Avenue South, Hamilton, ON, L8M 2S3, Canada, or sow.myspace.com/hakobkatis. Jimmy has also been getting into the studio with bands. One of those is a new band from Weiland called the **ROCKET REFINERS**. He worked on a four-song CD called *Turn & Lookin' Right*. Some of these songs are up on their Myspace site at www.myspace.com/rocketrefiners. They also have a CD titled *You Call Me Simple, I Call It Fake*, but the band isn't making anymore because they just got out a 12", which is available through the band. They call their label Kick Yer Butt and you can get a copy for \$10 plus postage made out to T.J. Charman at 720 Muller Road, Fenwick, ON, L0S 0C0, email: rocketrefiners@gmail.com. They also have a 7" recorded which they hope to get a label to help release.

The **LORRAINAS** has been working on a new recording. www.myspace.com

collaborations has some new songs. One such project involves a LORRAINE VAPOR doing Smiths songs with a Ramones flavor. You can check out some of this at www.myspace.com/lovelylordlaine. A bunch of the guys from the VAPORS play in a Merfinsburg band called HONOR RZA. Scott left and was replaced by Chris from DAYMARKER. They have a Myspace site at www.myspace.com/honor167. Friends of SAM LAWRENCE started a new band called STEELTOWN SPOILERS, mostly from the VAPORS and Chris from SEANDER. COLUMBIAN NECKTIE have sound out this line up. Glen is the guy behind the Joe Strummer tributes in Hamilton. Check out www.myspace.com/steeltownspoilers.

SPICED ROTTEN is an awesome melodic punk band from Hamilton that has been around since the mid '90s. They have a couple of self-released EPs and they come from the Balmaine, Queens, Screaming Wussie school of punk. The band is trying the studio for the first time in a couple of years to record new songs for a CD, tentatively titled *Am I Like the Dead to You?*. The band has a couple of self-released CDs out already and you can reach them at 152 Balsam Avenue South, Hamilton, ON, L8M 3B6, Canada, email: amprc2@a.ca or [RAC KULA is a new all-women punk group in Hamilton featuring Paup, Ruffin from PANTY CHRIST and Alyssa of BDSM BAKESALE. RAC KULA put out their first live disc recorded at a TEENAGE HEAD show in Hamilton Place. Check out \[www.myspace.com/ruffinruffin\]\(http://www.myspace.com/ruffinruffin\). \(Dorset\) of PANTY CHRIST has started a new group with some guys from the RUD LIGHT RIPPER. Called CHOP SHOP. They have a four-song demo titled *From Nasty Rock to Rock*, some of which you can hear at \[www.myspace.com/chopshopdemo\]\(http://www.myspace.com/chopshopdemo\).](http://www.thypsies.com/spicedrotten/.</p>
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The ORPHANS has been around since the late '80s and play Normie New Christ style of punk. They have a Myspace site at www.myspace.com/orphansthemusicstyle.

The RESPONSIBLES is a band that features Jeff from RIOT STAR and some older guys from RAYMANS, MEAN RED SPIDERS and CRABLO. They have two CDs out and borrow influences from the Clash, the Sex Pistols and the Specials. They have a website at www.theresponsible.ca. Another ex-RIOT STAR project is the PUNK ROPS. Brian from RIOT STAR teams up with Caddy of the LORRAINE and the original SPOILED ROTTEN are playing out and do a mix of covers and originals. Their Myspace site is www.myspace.com/thepunkropsinhamilton. POISONED AEROS has a Myspace site at www.myspace.com/poisonederos. A new

band called BAWN AND THE DIRTS is worth checking out as well at www.myspace.com/bawnandthedirts.

Class of '77

Over the last few years this awesome band called THE SCREWED formed with the idea of playing music that was just from '77. The band featured members from the original scene and is made up of Cleave Anderson from the HAILED WIVES, Steve Kock of the DEMICS and VII FIDONS, Jon Horra of A NEON ROM, and Steve Saint from the SINISTERS. They self-released a covers CD titled 1977, which has covers of songs that came out in '77. They have been behind a lot of the reunion shows that have happened in the last few years with rights that they would join with guys from the early scene. One such collaboration involves a recording of a session with Cheech & Cherie from the Dead Boys.

TEENAGE HEAD released a similar session that they recorded with Murky Ramona and it came out on Sonic Unyon. Frankie Venon passed away last fall due to complications with their cancer, which was awful and killed a lot of people. There was an awesome tribute on

YouTube that was filmed at the wake. But the surviving members have teamed up with Tom Wilson to form a new band called SONS OF THE HAMMER.

SIMPIN' SAATCHER released a CD last year called *Halt Hammer Halt Love*. Sonic Unyon did this release also, which they recorded at Catherine North Studios, which was a converted church. A prestigious NYC label called Goodbye Recordings is releasing an official bootleg called *Silverfinger Here Archival Magazine: Final Recordings*, which will feature songs from '74-'79 with the exception of *The Story of Simply Savage*, which is from '83. The same label has just released a Lou Edgar Brown solo album from '83, called *The Shadows of Babylon*, and a documentary film by Greg Bennett, entitled *Love Profits: The Spooky Scatola Story*, is slated for release this year. You can find a trailer for the film at www.gregorybennett.com/documentary/moon.html.

Greg Dick of the DREAM DATES has been doing a series of interviews with these early-wave bands on one radio show. They have been incredibly informative. Anyway he was able to assemble the surviving members of the U.T.I.

Afterwards the band was inspired and started practicing with Greg on vocals and now they have started to play a few shows. Greg told me that they are learning some material that was unreleased so that is exciting news. And an U.T.I. website has been built with all kinds of updates so check out www.ugemusic.com/utireleaseinfo/underground/6544ugly.

The MILETONS are no longer but Steve continued with a band called STEVE DECKIE AND THE SCULPTIONS, which features Gary Topp's daughter on keyboards. Contact Deckie because

he is supposed to be doing something with some of the guys from the Stripes.

DIODES has a bunch of releases in the works. *Active Resistance* is being released on CD for the first time. There is another release featuring the *Reel of Making Up Your Mind* EP, which includes nine '77 demos and a narrative mixtape plus some live material from that period. There will be a CD of a live show at the U.T.I. Merfinsburg that will be coming out. These will be coming out on Ralph Alfonso's label, which is Banga Beat Records. 2049 Melrose Avenue, Montreal, Quebec, H1A 2R6, Canada. www.bongabeat.com. The band will be playing some shows on the West Coast of Canada in the summer and another NOXNE appearance may

U.T.I.



BRUTAL KNIGHTS

happen, but that John of the DRONES have formed a new band in between called the BEVERLY BROTHERS. I think that is a reference to the old drinking hole, the "Dev".

EXISTERS has gotten back together as part of this and recorded eight songs of original EXISTERS material. A working title for the recording is *Depression*. To find out more about this contact the band directly through Bernie Farrell at barrieexisters@rogers.com.

Two of the HAYONETTES filled in for the reformed TYRANNA when they got back together in the fall for their record release party. TYRANNA was a second-wave Toronto punk band formed back in 1978. They did a recording live in the day and the material was re-mastered so they could release some of it. Five of the songs came out as an EP. A local record/book store, known as Frantic City, formerly known as Babel Books, released the EP on a label that they started up called Boppy Do Hown. The record is pretty amazing for early melodic punk and you can write Tim Hannah at 723 Kensington Avenue, Toronto, ON, M6J 2Z2. Ask him on this one. Rave Up Records out of Italy has been in touch with the band about a full length, so hopefully that will come together.

Cynthia from the B-GIRLS has a new band with some guys from New York called NEW YORK BUNK. It is rumored to be Johnny Thunder-esque. ZRÖH have reformed with some of the SCREWED line up and have been playing out as of late. You can check out news about ZRÖH at www.myspace.com/zroh. JOHNNY AND THE G-RAYS re-issued their *Every Twink Remains*, which was recorded back in 1980. This was originally produced and mixed by Stacey Heydon, who worked with TILLY AND THE AGENTS. You can get a copy through inquiries@chommail.com for \$13 plus postage. A flammaker by the name of Randy Marsh is working on bringing to life some black-and-white footage of the band from a gig at the Palais Royale recorded back in 1979.

THE MOES re-recorded three songs back in April. They did "Bust Down," "New Breed" and "From A Window," and hope to release them with some old demo material and some live eight-track recordings from back in '78-'80. There is a video for "Reign of Terror" up on Youtube from their reunion show in 2007, and the band made some shirts for the show that they still may have copies of. They also had some copies of the rare

22 *Thoughts* (12", but you will have to reach them).

The WAYOUTS has also gotten back together and played a few shows in support of a YON DRATS record release. There is talk of doing a live taping for a webcast. You can contact Mike about those details at mike@wayouts.com. There is a WAYOUTS site at www.wayouts.com. Click on Francis's name to get there. Also, Johnny Bobbittigan let me know that the band has a couple of copies of their original LP recorded way back in '78. Contact him at willbobbittigan@gmail.com. His current line up of the WAYOUTS may perform in the future as CMC, doing some liveer MAYDAY material.

The Last Days has just been released as a DVD. The new format has some extras with Chris Haight. Colin continues to work on the update, called *The Last Days Jump Again, The Cha Cha Cha*. For one of the best updates on the first generation of Toronto punk, check out his website at www.thelastdays.net.

Labels:

As for labels, you have been hearing lots about the second edition of the *Toronto City Chronicle* comp throughout this report. Schizophrenia Records is also working on another local comp called *No TO*, which is a tribute to the No 1,4 comp from back in the day. It will be a show early release and features covers by L'EGIONNETTE, CAREER SUICIDE and some others. It's going to be a non-sited 12" (in clear vinyl) like the original. Craig is also working on a series of old local releases which include SONS OF ISMAEL, *Haystack Hurricane*, the YOL NE THINGS demos as a 12", and the MICRO EDGE demos as an LP. There is the ENDLESS BLECKNAD, SHANK solo, which is limited to 300 copies, a DISCO ASSAULT *Saturday Night Bleeder* EP, a DEATHFACE EP, and a BROKEN NEPHIL EP all in the works. For details, write Craig Caron, 17 West 4th Street, Hamilton, ON, L9C 3M2, Canada, www.schizophreniarecords.com.

Fans of Bad Productions has relocated to Toronto, the label's birthplace, after 17 years and is working on an Ontario-area compilation, to be entitled *More Summer Squash*, to be released in 2010 when COHO turns 20. Bands who are interested in contributing should send an unsolicited song for consideration to: 297 Westmoreland Avenue, Toronto, ON, M6H 3A4, Canada. As a way to fund the new release, COHO is offering six titles for \$20 PPB. The

titles available are VELVET CLAWS *Quarantine* 7", FRANCIS NAKATOMI *Plaza* split 7", GOATBOY + DRUNK split LP, and the comps *The Street Corner*, *The Home* CD, GO 200P, and *Killed By Canada* 24CD.

Chris Colahan of FURIED has started a label called High Anxiety. Today the label has put out EPs by LIVING DARKNESS, CHEAP TRAGEDIES and EATING GLASS. The next projects he has coming include his two side-project bands BURNING LOVE and MATURE SITUATIONS, as well as the CURSED recorded at the BBC. You can write him at crossed@highanxiety.com.

The drummer from CAREER SUICIDE, Dave Brown, does the label called Sewerage and has just released a new EP on the label by L'ESTIE ANGRY from his native Togo, Nova Scotia. Dave also did a little side-project band with Joahel Fales called DEAF MUTATIONS. They released a 3 song demo, which you can order through Dave at 1092 Queen Street West, Toronto, ON, M6J 1J6.

Mark from Spin the Bottle moved to Toronto to be with his girlfriend and joined the SCHOOL DICKS. He runs this awesome garage-rock label called Spin the Bottle.

Valhalla Records is also putting out a BLACK SHIPS 12" titled *Queen*. The address is above under OER FATHER.

Black Pint Records also released a couple of releases by the CREEPS from Ottawa. You can write for *Lakeview Volume* or the new 7", titled *Three Walls*. The address is up in the section about HOSTAGE ED.

Nerve Hold Records is also putting out a HARD CHARGER LP titled *Bottom Will Reign*. Nerve Hold's contact information is in the section above about HAZARDOUS WASTE and they have a website at nervehold.blogspot.com.

Along with the URBAN BLIGHT 12", Slasher Records is rumored to be working on a CHOCOLATE 12".

Servers:

There are three groups of people doing the hard work of show promotion in the city right now. Mark Peser puts together back 19+ bar and DIY all-ages punk and hardcore shows. You can contact him at markpeser@hotmail.com. Greg Benedetto and his Squad in the City collective are dedicated to building up the all-ages hardcore scene. While

TYRANNA





they are similarly diverse, their focus seems to be on the mostly-ey baller of hardcore. You can check out their blog to get a sense of what they're doing, or contact Greg at greg.benedetto@gmail.com. Matt from High Art for the Lowdown has started up a bar called Annie's On Queen and Cierra is helping out with the booking. They are an open format punk bar and have hosted a lot of crust, grind, and metal-core shows, as well as the occasional acoustic night. Contact them at: annie'sonqueen@live.ca or www.aniesonqueen-wichry.com.

Adrift Skate Shop has been a regular fixture of the hardcore punk scene for the past five years. They recently moved locations from Kensington Market to a new store at 116 Spadina Avenue. There was a photo showed both skateboarding and concert photography that commemorated the old Adrift location. Tyndey and the Adrift team acquired an unused warehouse that they call the Adrift Clubhouse. Mads and SUE have been using the space for some of the most amazing shows the city has seen in a long time. Highlights include a secret NO AGE show, REIGN SUPREME, TRAPPING UNDER IT, and an amazing ARCADE SUICIDE show with about 400 people in attendance despite sub-zero temperatures. The lease at the Clubhouse is up in April and they are looking for a new space. In the meantime you can visit www.adriftskateshop.com.

An artist live/work loft space in the city's east end has also become a hot spot of activity. The building is called Nosta Novcenty and it was home to the High Art for the Low Down space. Now being run out of Annie's on Queen and Smiley BLM, which is where a lot of the smaller SUE shows find their home. A new space in the market has opened up called Rear View Mirror. It used to be a space that housed Bread and Circus. That's good to see another venue in the market now that Planet Kensington is closed. Graffiti's also does the odd in store show. LOBP's Doc Jay "Ye Ma Bazz" spins punk vinyl at Milla's Sister with a dabbling in booking bands too. trichus.com sympathizes is the email for bands that want a gig at Toronto at Milla's Sister at 1551 Queen Street West. As Parkdale goes, the older scene has some shows at the Cadillac Lounge and Tokyo's.

In terms of 19+ bar shows, Sleazy Dec's and Ranchio Relago continue to regularly host punk and hardcore bands. Occasionally, the Cathedral will have worthwhile shows. And a new disco bar in Parkdale, called Winnebago, promised to start having regular punk shows, but outside of a HARD SKIN + LUCKED UP show, the space has not lived up to its potential. Toler hard that Jon Molinaro is opening up a nightclub in Hamilton.

Stores:

Robert Books is a great new store down the street, just south of Dundas on Ossington. My brother's friend Tim Hannah runs the store. The store has recently changed their name to Frantic City and they are located in 123 Ossington Avenue. Rotate Tins has moved a little further west to 801 Queen Street West. They are one of the best places to get concert tickets and stuff. They have a website at www.rotate.com. Daniel Hannah of TERMINAL RAGE fame started up a video store called Eye Sore Cinema, which is above the new Rotate Tins location. Daniel does an excellent job of capturing underground culture on the blog eyesorecinema.blogspot.com.

Spiderman Al has started up a vegetarian diner called Sadie's Diner, which is at 501 Adelaide Street West, and you can check out their menu at www.myspace.com/sadiesdiner.

Print Matter:

Liz Worth has finished her book on Southern Ontario punk rock, titled *When We Were Like Dirt: An Oral History of Punk in Toronto and Beyond*. Hengo Rost is working on publishing the book and there is a lot of anticipation about its release. Check www.bongobrat.com for details. Liz has a chapbook that has just come out called *Electric Church*, which she describes as being about bad trips, occult obsessions, and surreal punk fiction about death and debauchery. You can order the chapbook for \$5.00 through her site at www.lizworth.com.

Radio:

"Aggressive Rock" is a racial and extreme music show on CKLN. It is the longest standing show of its kind in the city and an interim management team tried to kick them off the air. There was a temporary stay of execution but they are not out of the woods yet. It would be a travesty if the city lost this show. For updates contact Paul Johnson at pauljohnson@yahoo.com.

"Equalizing Distort" on CHU 130.5FM plays punk and hardcore. Every week we play a demo on our show so if you are in a band with a recording shoot it our way. My address is: 21 Foundry Avenue, Unit 5, Toronto, ON, M6H 4K7. If you have any questions, email me at: equalizingdistort@icloud.com.